

IT'S THE STORY YOU WON'T BELIEVE:

UNRAVELING



SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

ISSUE 241



ARCHIECOMICS.COM

YARDLEY & DOWSE
#HEROES

Welcome to the planet Mobius -- a world unique and beyond what you know from the SEGA games!
Where Sonic the Hedgehog and the heroic Freedom Fighters work to save the world from the forces of evil!

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

Who's Who



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
HERO OF MOBIUS



DR. EGGMAN
WORLD-CONQUERING
MAD SCIENTIST



KING IXIS NAUGUS
EVIL (?) WIZARD



GEOFFREY ST. JOHN
EX-SPY & IXIS APPRENTICE

PREVIOUSLY...

A KINGDOM IN PERIL!

As Sonic the Hedgehog leads **Team Fighters** abroad to hunt down the evil Dr. Eggman and his Death Egg Mark2 battle station, Rotor's **Team Freedom** stands poised to defend the city of New Mobotropolis. But these days it seems that defending the Republic of Acorn is no easy task.



On the throne of Acorn sits the evil wizard King Ixis Naugus, who, along with his apprentice Geoffrey St. John, has manipulated the fears of the public to seize the crown. In a recent battle with the Eggman Empire, Naugus collapsed in agony and horrible mutations erupted from his body. While Eggman's forces were eventually beaten back by Team Freedom (with a little help from the Secret Freedom Fighters - shh!) it seems that Naugus's condition has only gotten worse.

The wizard King is now dangerously insane, and his mutations are escalating. Naugus even attempted to cast a mind control spell over the Council of Acorn as they worked to ratify the Kingdom's new constitution. The Secret Freedom Fighters (with a little help from a remorseful Geoffrey St. John - shh!) put a stop to the scheme, but Naugus's triple threat remains:

He's crazy. He's desperate.
And he's ANGRY...



UNRAVELING

EASTBOUND TO
THE MERCIAN
COAST...

THAT
TRACKER YOU
PLANTED ON THE
DEATH EGG IS
WORKING LIKE A
CHARM! * WE'VE
GOT EGGMAN
RUNNING SCARED
NOW!

THANKS,
SONIC!

BUT
FOLLOWING
IT IS ONE
THING,

TAKING
IT DOWN
WILL BE
ANOTHER!

* STH # 238.

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ABOARD THE
DEATH EGG II...

BLASTED
HEDGEHOG...
THROW SOME
EGG-SWATS
AT THEM
WHILE I FIND
SOMETHING
BIGGER!

ALREADY ON
THE WAY, BOSS.

RRRGH!
SO MANY DEATH
MACHINES! TOO
LITTLE TIME TO
COMPLETE
THEM!

PARDON,
M'LORD,
BUT ME-
THINKS--

--I HATH
FOUNDETH
SOMETHING...

EGAD! IT'S A SPRIG OF
THE KRUDZU HYBRID
HYDRA! *WHY, I COULD
PLUG THIS INTO ANY OF
MY MACHINES, HAVE IT
TAKE OVER, AND...

*SONIC
SELECT
VOL. 6.

EGG-
SWATS AT
TWELVE
O'CLOCK!

OOH!

THEY'VE
GOT JET-
PACKS! I
HAVEN'T
SMASHED
ANY OF
THOSE!

LET'S
MAKE
THIS
QUICK
...!

...THE
SOONER
WE RESCUE
SALLY, THE
SOONER WE
GET HOME.

I DON'T
LIKE LEAVING
EVERYONE
BEHIND WITH
NAUGUS
ON THE
THRONE.

THERE IS NO
ESCAPE FROM US.
NOT EVEN
IN YOUR
DREAMS.

YOU WEAR THE CROWN,
BUT YOU HAVE NO
CONTROL! NOT OVER YOUR
KINGDOM! NOT OVER US!

NOT
EVEN
YOUR
OWN
BODY!

YOU FAIL AS
ANIXIS. YOU
CAN'T
HANDLE ONE
HEDGEHOG.

AFRAID I CAN'T
DO THAT, SIR,
LIKE I SAID,
IT'S TIME TO
GET UP.

SILENCE!
LEAVE ME
BE!

YOU'VE GOT
A FULL DAY AHEAD.
MAKE YOURSELF
PRESENTABLE.

HRRGH...WATCH YOUR
TONE WITH ME,
APPRENTICE!

HE'S BEEN SURLY
EVER SINCE...

...THE
DÉBACLE
UNDER THE
CITY.* I'LL
HAVE TO
KEEP AN
EYE ON
HIM, TOO...

*SU#44--
SECRET FREEDOM.

"FIRST OFF, YOU'RE SWEARING IN THE NEW COUNCILOR FROM THE EMERGENCY ELECTION."





BACK
ON THE
COAST...

LAST
ONE!

C'MON, DOC!

WE'RE TEAM
FIGHTERS! GIVE
US SOMETHING
TO FIGHT!

PIKO!

UMP?

THUD!

I LIVE
AGAIN!
SONIC!
THIS
TIME
YOU'RE
MINE!

BOSS... DIDNT YOU
DESTROY THE
HYDRA LAST TIME
FOR TRYING TO
KILL SONIC?

CLAP
CLAPCLAP

THIS
TIME IT
SERVES MY
PURPOSES!
FULL
SPEED
AHEAD!

OH, THAT'S...
REALLY NOT
GOOD.

SONIC! WHAT
IS THAT?

A KRUDZU
THING
--I'LL
EXPLAIN
LATER!
WE NEED
TO TAKE
IT DOWN
BEFORE
IT GETS ANY
STRONGER!



NEW MOBOTROPOLIS,
ROYAL MILITARY HQ.

TO WHAT
DO WE OWE
THE...PLEASURE,
NAUGUS?

I'VE COME
TO VISIT MY
POOR, AILING
FRIEND.

HELLO,
MAX.

IT PAINS ME TO SEE
YOU LIKE THIS. I
WATCHED YOU GROW
INTO A FINE YOUNG
MAN.* FROM KING
TO GREAT WAR TO
BANISHMENT...

I WAS THERE FOR YOU
THEN, WASN'T I? I
GAVE YOU THE POWER
TO SURVIVE THE
ZONE.** DO YOU
REMEMBER HOW
STRONG AND
HEALTHY YOU WERE
THEN? MMM?

MY HUSBAND IS NOT
WELL, SIR. PLEASE
GET TO YOUR POINT.

LADY ALICIA, I'M
OFFERING HIM A
NEW LEASE ON LIFE!
I CAN MAKE HIM
WHOLE WITH MY
CRYSTALLINE
MAGIC!

*SONIC
ARCHIVES
VOLUME 17.

*SONIC
ARCHIVES
VOLUME 14.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH ME AGAIN, JUST AS BEFORE.

AND THEN I CAN POSSESS YOU AGAIN, * GIVING ME TIME TO FIND A WAY TO HEAL MY BODY.

*SONIC SELECT VOLUME 3.

N-NO...

NOW, NOW-- MAX, I--

HE HAS GIVEN YOU AN ANSWER. NOW KINDLY LEAVE US IN PEACE.

I AM KING HERE! I--!

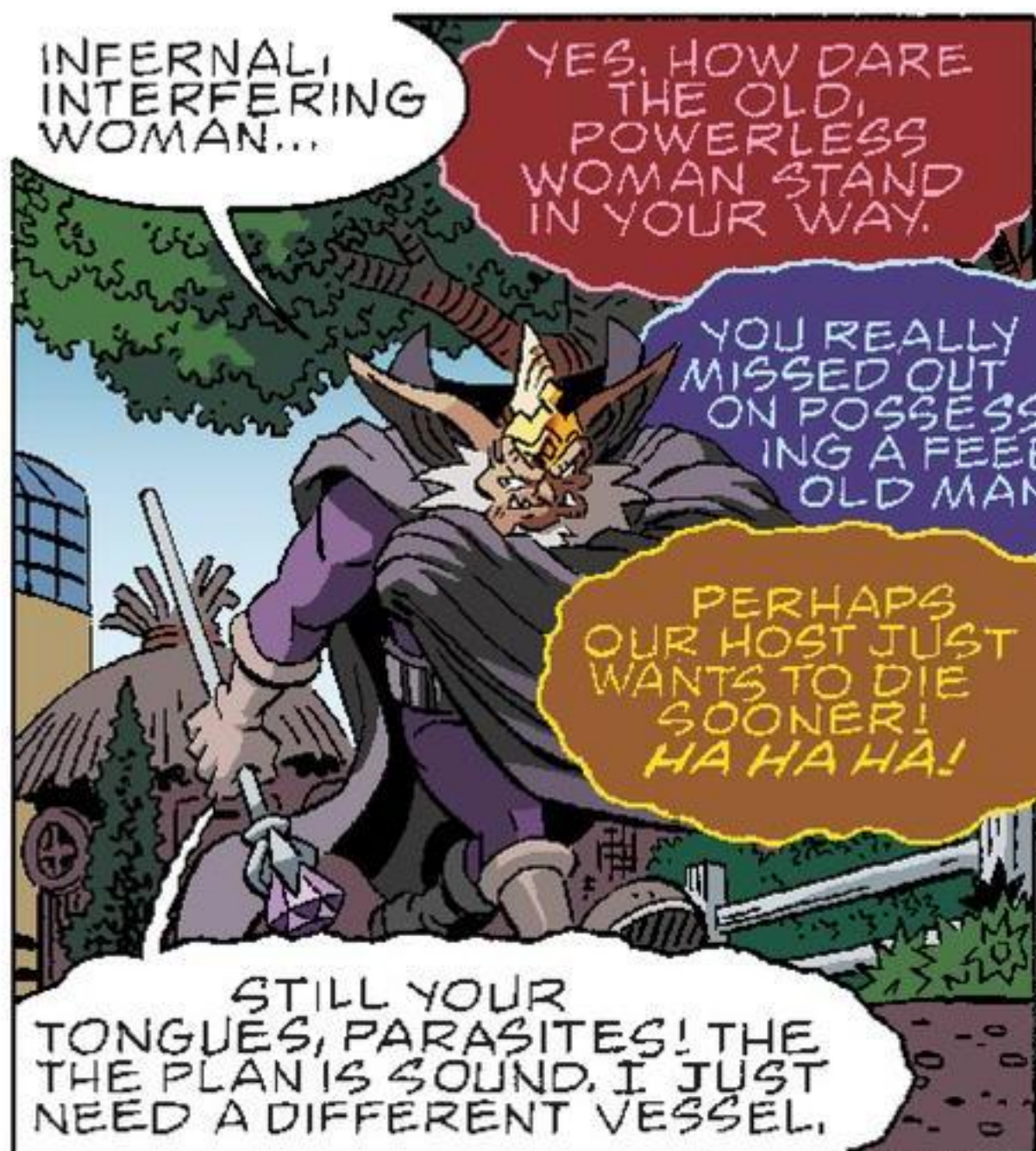
HE IS THE BELOVED FORMER KING! AND YOU LOOK NO HEALTHIER. LEAVE, OR WE WILL SEE WHO THE GUARDS TRULY FAVOR AND HOW YOU FARE AGAINST THEM!



TH-THANK YOU...

ALICIA...





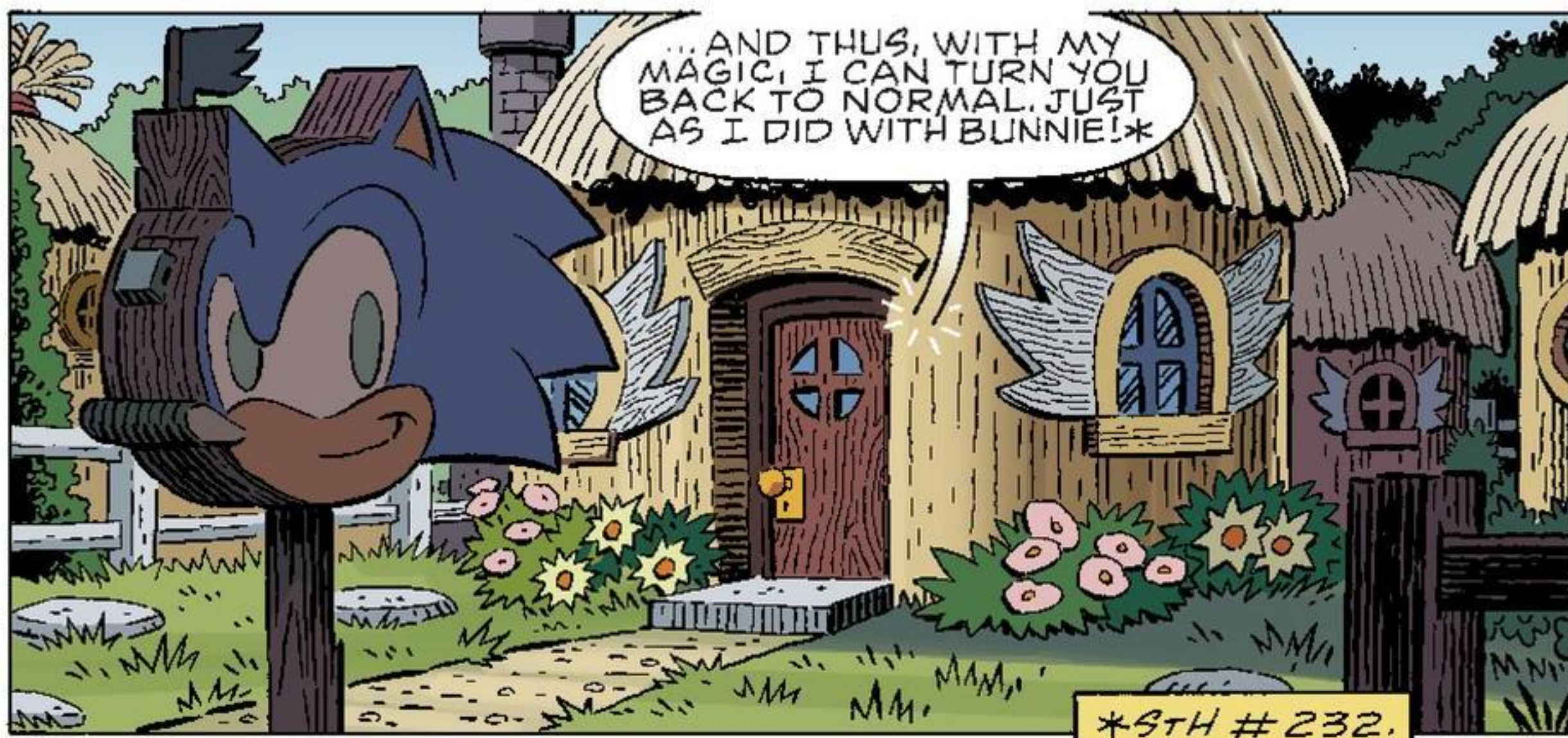
INFERNAL,
INTERFERING
WOMAN...

YES, HOW DARE
THE OLD,
POWERLESS
WOMAN STAND
IN YOUR WAY.

YOU REALLY
MISSED OUT
ON POSSESS-
ING A FEEBLE
OLD MAN.

PERHAPS
OUR HOST JUST
WANTS TO DIE
SOONER!
HA HA HA!

STILL YOUR
TONGUES, PARASITES! THE
THE PLAN IS SOUND. I JUST
NEED A DIFFERENT VESSEL.



...AND THUS, WITH MY
MAGIC, I CAN TURN YOU
BACK TO NORMAL. JUST
AS I DID WITH BUNNIE!*

*STH #232.

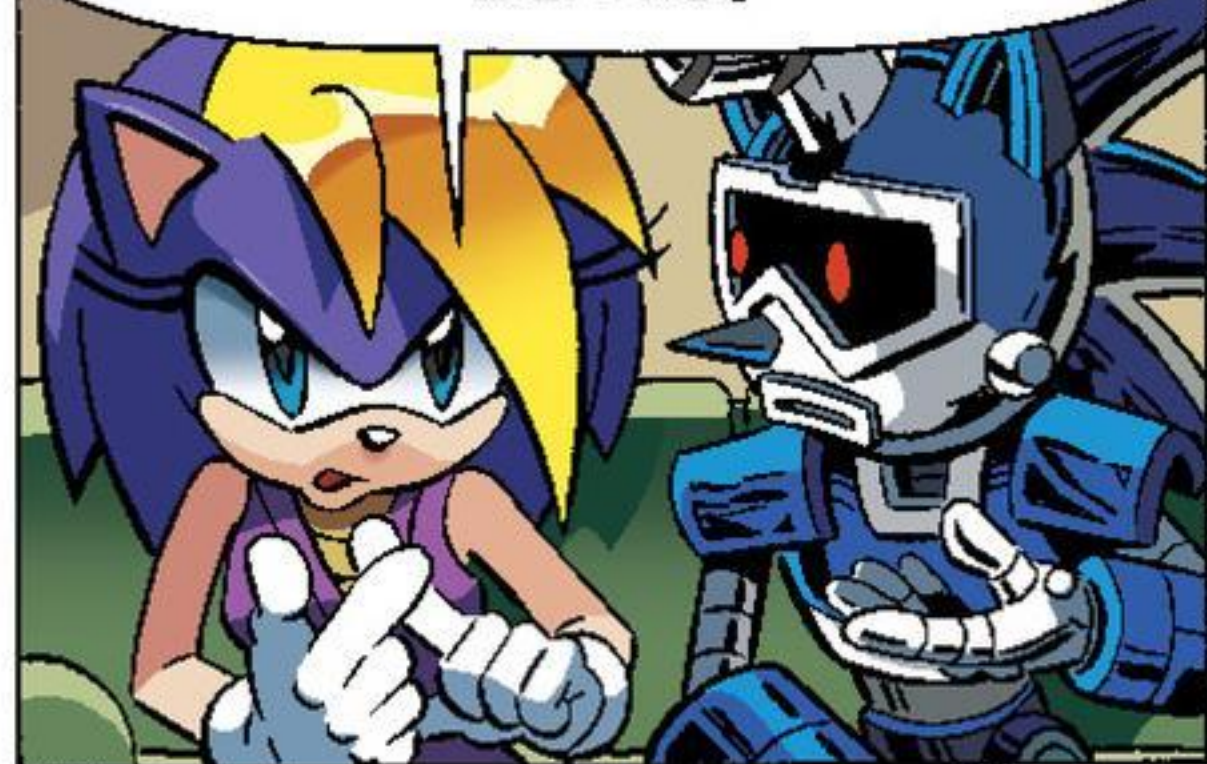


ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS
PUT YOUR FAITH IN YOUR
KING, WHAT DO YOU SAY?



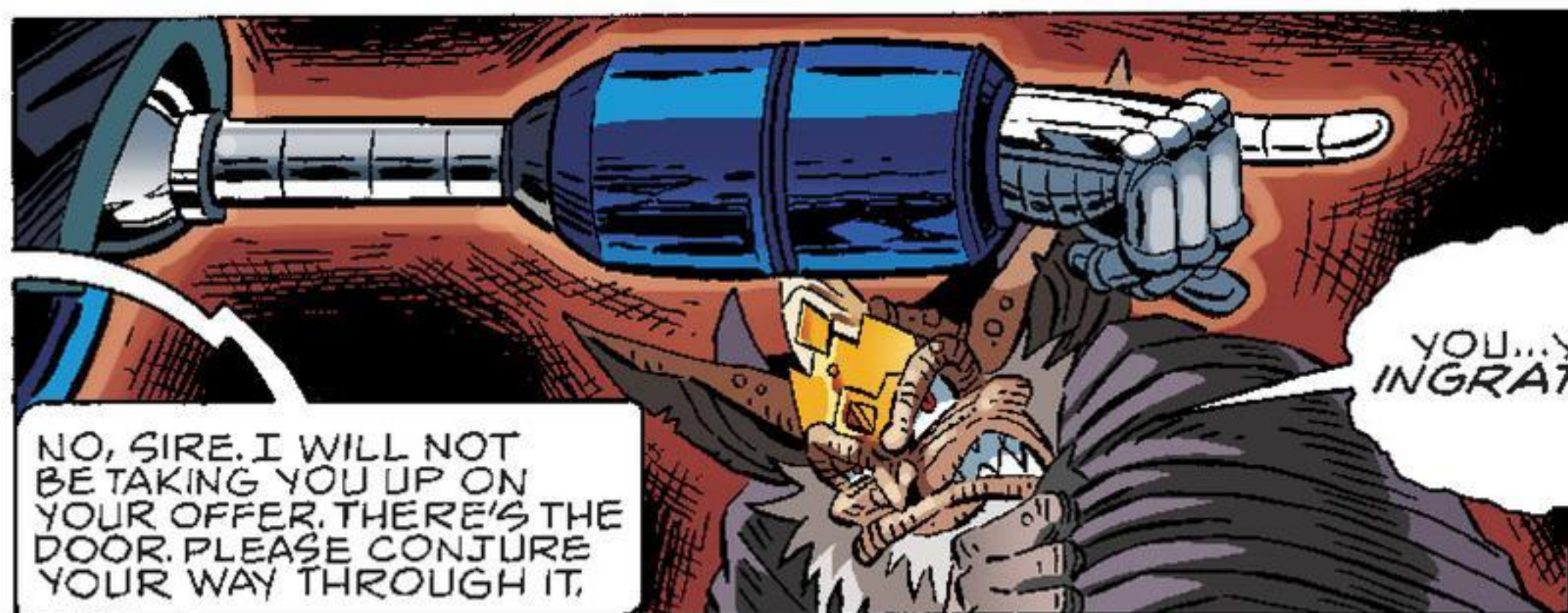


JULES REMAINS A ROBIAN DUE TO HIS OLD WAR WOUNDS. YOU EXPECT MY HUBAND TO RISK THAT TO A PROCESS YOU CAN'T EXPLAIN ASIDE FROM "IT'S MAGIC"? YOU EXPECT US TO BELIEVE YOU HAVE NO OTHER MOTIVE WHEN YOU COULD HAVE OFFERED THIS "TREATMENT" JUST AFTER YOU CHANGED BUNNIE?



OF ALL THE NERVE TO... YOUR TURN, HON.

FURTHERMORE, YOU ARE THE MAN WHO NEARLY DROVE MOBIANS AND ROB-ANS INTO CIVIL WAR, WERE THE BITTER ENEMY OF MY MENTOR, AND--MOST IMPORTANTLY--TRIED TO KILL MY SON.



NO, SIRE. I WILL NOT BE TAKING YOU UP ON YOUR OFFER. THERE'S THE DOOR. PLEASE CONJURE YOUR WAY THROUGH IT.





FALL
BEFORE
ME,
INSECTS!



T-PUP PULLED UP
THE FILE ON KRUDZU,
IT'S WEAK TO WATER,
REMEMBER?



WE'RE
ON THE
COAST.



BINGO!

THEN WE PUT
EVERYTHING
INTO ONE HIT
AND KNOCK IT
INTO THE
SURF!

AMY, YOU
SERVE UP
A WALLOP
COMBO!

TAILS, LOCK
THE MISSILES ONTO
ME WHEN I LAUNCH!
IT'S NOW OR NEVER
--LITERALLY.



SKASH!!!



AUGH!
NO! WHAT
DID YOU
DO--?!

AHHHHH!
I'LL BE BACK!
I'VE COME BACK
FROM WORSE!
I'LL BE BAAACK
--!



CUT IT
A LITTLE
CLOSE
THERE,
HUH?

ONLY A
LITTLE.

BIG GUY
MADE ME
THINK OF
NAUGUS.

ALL
THAT
POWER
ON THE
OUTSIDE...

"...NO SUBSTANCE
ON THE INSIDE!"

LATER--NEW
MOBOTROPOLIS,
COLISEUM...

THIS
BETTER BE
THE LAST
THING FOR
TODAY,
APPREN-
TICE.

JUST
THIS PUBLIC
APPEARANCE
AT MINA'S
CONCERT,
SIR.

GOOD.
TODAY
HAS
BEEN...
TRYING.

YOU SEEM
...RELAXED.

I USED THIS
BAND TO SPREAD FEAR
ABOUT THE A.I.*
MORE HATE-MONGER-
ING MUSIC WILL QUELL
ANY TALK OF...

GOOD EVENING,
EVERYONE, AND
THANKS FOR COMING OUT!
THE LAST CONCERT WAS SUPPOSED
TO BE ABOUT EMPOWERMENT, BUT
THE MESSAGE GOT LOST IN A CLOUD
OF MY OWN FEARS. I WANT TO START
BY SAYING TONIGHT'S THEME IS
ABOUT LOVE, UNDERSTANDING...

...RE-
VERSING
THE EXILE.

*STH # 221.

...AND
FORGIVENESS!

TONIGHT IS DEDICATED TO
SOMEONE VERY SPECIAL WHO'S
GIVEN EVERYTHING FOR US,
BUT NOW NEEDS US TO GIVE
IN RETURN. THIS FIRST SONG
--THIS WHOLE CONCERT--IS
DEDICATED TO YOU, NICOLE.

I'M GOING
TO VOMIT.

SHUT
UP!

HAHAHA

I'M SICK
OF KEEPING
UP THESE PRETENSES. I'M SICK
OF THE CITIZEN'S FICKLE
MOOD. I'M SICK OF THE
MUTATIONS AND
YOUR VOICES, AND--

MOTHER, I
THINK I LOST
THAT TAILS-
LOOKING
DOLL.

PUBLIC
IMAGE.
SIT.

YOU'VE
TAKEN
SUCH
GOOD CARE
OF IT.
I'M SURE
YOU JUST
LEFT IT
AT HOME.





THIS IS ONE MORE REASON WE NEED NICOLE BACK! THE STAGE WOULD'VE BEEN FINE IF SHE'D BEEN HERE! SHE NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT! TEAM FREEDOM AND TEAM FIGHTERS NEED OUR SUPPORT! THEY'RE THERE FOR US--WE NEED TO BE THERE FOR OUR HEROES!

YEAH!
WE WANT NICOLE!
HEROES! HEROES!
HEROES!





THERE YOU GO.

YOU GONNA MAKE IT?

YESSS, APPRENTICE... YOU SSSAVED ME... YOU ARE LOYAL...



I SHOULDN'T BE, I BELIEVED YOU COULD DO GOOD FOR THIS CITY.



QUIRKS ASIDE, YOU TAUGHT ME TO BE STRONG AND SELF-RELIANT. I THOUGHT YOU COULD BRING THOSE IDEALS TO MOBOTROPOLIS.

WATCH YOUR WORDS...

NO! YOU LISTEN TO *MINE*! YOU BETRAYED MY CITY WITH THAT STUPID STUNT YOU PULLED UNDERGROUND!*

IT'S A MIRACLE YOU WERE STOPPED! YOU'RE SICK, YOU'RE TWISTED, AND YOU'RE...



...WRONG!

*SEE SONIC UNIVERSE #44 -- EDITOR

AND I'M NO BETTER. MAKES ME A LOUSY PERSON TO JUDGE.

LOOK...

...I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT WAS LIKE IN THE ORDER OF IXIS. ALL THE LIES AND BACK-STABBIN' MIGHT'VE BEEN NEEDED BACK THEN. AND IT SERVED ME AS A SPY...

...BUT THOSE DAYS ARE BEHIND US.

THIS CITY IS FULL OF CHARITABLE, FORGIVING FOLKS. IT'S THE ONE PLACE IN THE WORLD BLOKES LIKE US CAN LET OUR GUARDS DOWN AND TRULY DO GOOD.

ARE YOU SO NAIVE AS TO THINK THEY WOULD OFFER US THEIR TRUST? TO OFFER REDEMPTION?

YOU HEARD THE CROWD! THEY'RE READY TO BRING NICOLE BACK ALREADY. I ARRESTED SONIC ONCE, AND HE PUT IT BEHIND HIM FOR PITY'S SAKE!*

MY POINT IS: I KNOW YOU'RE SICK. HAVE BEEN SINCE EGG-MAN DID HIS "WHITE OUT" ATTACK.** INSTEAD OF TRYING TO TRICK YOUR WAY OUT OF IT...

...HOW ABOUT ASKING FOR HELP? JUST THIS ONCE?

**GENESIS GN.

* SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 12





THE
NEXT
DAY...

...AND WITH A UNANIMOUS
VOTE--AND OUR SINCERE
APOLOGIES--WE WELCOME
YOU BACK INTO THE CITY
UNDER "MONITORED
CONDITIONS,"

I AM
HAPPY TO
ACCEPT,
SIR
CHARLES.
I KNOW
WITH YOU I
WILL BE IN
GOOD HANDS.
BUT WAS IT
REALLY UNAN-
IMOUS?

WELL...



IT IS
NOW!

MY MASTER
IS TOO ILL TO
ATTEND TODAY,
BUT SENDS HIS
FULL SUPPORT
OF YOUR
RETURN.



HE
DOES?

HE HAS ALSO SENT
ME TO CONFESS
A TERRIBLE SECRET
HE HAS KEPT
FROM ALL OF YOU.
HE IS DYING, AND IN
HIS DESPAIR, HE
TRIED TO TAKE ON
ALL HE COULD
--TO SERVE
THE CITY TO
HIS FULLEST
IN HIS LAST
HOURS.



IT'S TAKEN ME QUITE A
WHILE, BUT I GOT HIM
TO SEE HIS OLD WAYS
WERE FLAWED, AND HOW
TOGETHER WE MAY
SAVE HIS LIFE. SO THAT HE
MAY SERVE YOU BETTER.
WILL YOU HELP ME TO
HELP HIM?





THE Fabled HOMELAND OF THE ECHIDNAS IS UNDER ATTACK! CAN TEAM FIGHTERS TURN THE Tide? Maybe With a little help FROM KNUCKLES! JOIN US IN STH ISSUE 243 FOR "ENDANGERED SPECIES!" UNTIL THEN, ENJOY A SPECIAL EVENT STORY NEXT MONTH, SONIC UNIVERSE, the SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE, and the GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!